

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5338

S E C R E T MONROVIA 2104

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: OVIP (DAVIS, NATHANIEL), PFOR, XA, LI

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS

REF: STATE 088432

1. PRESIDENT TOLBERT WELCOMES VISIT OF ASST. SECRETARY DAVIS AND IS DELIGHTED MONROVIA FIRST STOP. DATES OF VISIT CONVENIENT BOTH FOR PRESIDENT TOLBERT AND FONMIN DENNIS. IN MEETING WITH FONMIN DENNIS THIS MORNING, I UNDERLINED THAT PURPOSE ASST. SECRETARY DAVIS' TRAVEL IS TO MEET CHIEFS OF STATE AND FON-MINISTERS AND TO FAMILIARIZE HIMSELF WITH AFRICA FIRST HAND AND THAT PUBLICITY AND PRESS ATTENTION SHOULD BE KEPT AT MINIMUM. BASED ON SUBSEQUENT TALK WITH FONMIN DENNIS, FOLLOWING TENTATIVE SCHEDULE BLOCKED OUT:

A) WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

10:35 ARRIVE AT ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRFIELD ON PAN AM 184. MET BY AMBASSADOR AND GOL REPRESENTATIVES; PROCEED DIRECTLY TO RESIDENCE.

11:45 (APPROX) ARRIVE AT RESIDENCE

12:30 LUNCH WITH AMBASSADOR AND DCM BEAN AT RESIDENCE

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14:00 CALL ON PRESIDENT TOLBERT AT EXECUTIVE MANSION

ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR AND FONMINISTER.
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
TOLBERT, MEETING AT FONMINISTRY WITH FONMINISTER AND OTHER
KEY LIBERIAN MINISTERS AND THEIR US COUNTERPARTS.

20:00 DINNER IN HONOR OF ASST. SECRETARY DAVIS HOSTED
BY FONMIN DENNIS.

B) THURSDAY, MAY 8

09:00 METTING WITH FONMINISTER AT FONMINISTRY.

10:00 MEETING WITH US MISSION STAFF
DEPART MONROVIA FOR ROBERTSFIELD IMMEDIATELY
THEREAFTER WITH VISIT ENROUTE TO MILITARY
HOUSING CONSTRUCTION AND RICE PRODUCTION AT
CAMP SCHIEFFELIN.

12:45 DEPART ROBERTSFIELD FOR ACCRA VIA GH 549.

2. IN VIEW OF TIGHT TIMETABLE AFTER ARRIVAL, SUGGEST BRIEFING OF
ASST. SECRETARY DAVIS BE DONE IN DEPARTMENT. WE CAN FILL IN
LOCAL DETAIL AT LUNCHEON. I WOULD URGE THAT HE READ THE DRAFT
ANNUAL POLICY ASSESSMENT FOR LIBERIA 1975 (MONROVIA A-24 DATED
APRIL 17) POUCHED APRIL 17. WE WILL SEND DEFINITIVE LIST OF
ITEMS WHICH PRESIDENT TOLBERT OR FONMIN DENNIS MAY RAISE WITH
ASST. SECRETARY DAVIS AT LATER DATE AFTER TAKING SOME SOUNDINGS
WITH MINISTRIES CONCERNED. SUBJECTS ALMOST SURELY WILL INCLUDE:
A) SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES AND DIALOGUE WITH SA;
B) NEED FOR INCREASED US ATTENTION TO AFRICA IN GENERAL
AND LIBERIA IN PARTICULAR, INCLUDING GREATER ACCESS TO SECRETARY
AND OTHER RANKING US OFFICIALS.
C) NEED FOR INCREASED US OFFICIAL AID FOR LIBERIAN
DEVELOPMENT WITH ACCOMPANYING LIBERIAN SHOPPING LIST;
D) NEED FOR INCREASED PRIVATE INVESTMENT, INCLUDING USG
OFFICIAL HELP IN PROMOTING SUCH INVESTMENTS;
E) STATUS OF OUR REQUEST FOR ONE-TIME MILITARY ASSISTANCE
PACKAGE (MONROVIA 1395);
F) RELAXATION OF VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR LIBERIAN STUDENTS
(A POSSIBLE ITEM).

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IN ADDITION, IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE FOR ASST. SECRETARY DAVIS TO
PROVIDE A STATUS REPORT ON OUR REVIEW OF THE US-LIBERIA EDUCA-
TIONAL FOUNDATION (MONROVIA 1838). I DO NOT THINK THIS NEED BE
RAISED WITH THE PRESIDENT, NOR IS HE LIKELY TO RAISE IT, BUT
FONMIN DENNIS WOULD BE KEY MINISTER IN ANY JOINT REVIEW OF WHERE
WE GO ON THIS MATTER AND A NUDGE FROM US WOULD BE HELPFUL EVEN IF
WE DO NOT HAVE DEFINITIVE US POSITION.

3. DENNIS FEELS SURE THAT PRESIDENT TOLBERT WILL WISH TO KEEP HIS DISCUSSION WITH ASST. SECRETARY DAVIS TO BROAD AFRICAN AND WORLD ISSUES AND AN EXPOSITION OF HIS INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY/PROGRAM, LEAVING DISCUSSION OF DETAILS TO HIS MINISTERS AT THE MEETING TO FOLLOW. DENNIS CONCEIVES THIS MEETING AT THE FONMINISTRY AS ONE IN WHICH THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND SOME OF THE ISSUES LISTED ABOVE WOULD BE TAKEN UP IN MORE DEPTH. THE FOLLOW-UP SESSION WITH DENNIS AT 0900 ON MAY 8 IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THOSE MORE PURELY FOREIGN POLICY QUESTIONS WHICH DAVIS MIGHT NOT WISH TO DISCUSS IN THE LARGER MEETING THE PREVIOUS AFTERNOON OR THE FOLLOW-UP ON ANY AGREEMENTS REACHED. THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME FOR DAVIS TO TAKE UP THE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF THE US/LIBERIA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION.
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